

Bosnian Serbs, are able to receive television and radio broadcasts that depict the true reasons for their isolation and poor standing in the international community, it is less likely that meaningful progress will be made in the implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton accords.

Mr. President, the European Stars and Stripes reported last week that many Bosnian Serbs have refused to accept copies of a free publication called the Herald of Peace that is handed out throughout Bosnia by SFOR. I am sure that they are reluctant to be seen accepting this publication for fear that they will be reported to Karadzic and his henchmen. The beauty of Commando Solo is that its radio and television broadcasts will go into the homes of the Bosnian Serbs where they can receive it away from prying eyes. Karadzic can't stop the broadcasts—they override his transmissions. It is time to put this valuable tool to work for peace in Bosnia and for the security of our forces.

EXHIBIT 1

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 24, 1997.

Mr. SAMUEL R. BERGER,
Assistant to the President for National Security
Affairs, National Security Council, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. BERGER: I am writing in connection with the lack of progress in implementing the civilian aspects of the Dayton peace accords, particularly the problem of war criminals. I am deeply disturbed about the failure of the Bosnian parties, particularly the Republika Srpska, to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law as required by Article IX of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Recent press reports regarding the influence of former Bosnian Serb president and indicted war criminal Radovan Karadzic, establish that his and his party's control of all Bosnian Serb media, particularly Bosnian television, consistently presents a distorted picture as to the cause of the Republic's isolation and poverty.

Until the Bosnian people, particularly the Bosnian Serbs, are able to receive television broadcasts that depict the true reasons for their isolation and poor standing in the international community, it is doubtful that any meaningful progress will be made in the implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton accords.

I am concerned that the local media's distorted reporting is inflaming the situation in Republika Srpska and encouraging the Bosnian Serbs to take reprisal action against personnel of the Stabilization Force (SFOR), the International Police Task Force (IPTF), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). It seems to me that those actions and other less dramatic, but improper, actions by the Bosnian Serbs and their political leadership are impeding the ability of the SFOR Commander to protect the SFOR and to carry out its responsibilities under the accords.

Paragraph 5 of Article VI of the Agreement on the Military Aspects of the Peace Settlement gives the SFOR Commander the authority to do all that he judges necessary and proper to protect the SFOR and to carry out its responsibilities. I believe that it would be appropriate for the SFOR Com-

mander to determine that the presentation of distorted reports about SFOR, the inflaming of emotions, and the encouragement of reprisal action by the Bosnian Serb media controlled by Karadzic and the ruling Serb Democratic Party, are impeding his ability to protect SFOR and to carry out SFOR's responsibilities.

The U.S. military has the capability through the EC-130E Commando Solo aircraft to broadcast television and radio messages to the Bosnian people. I strongly recommend that, once the SFOR Commander makes the above determination, he be authorized to utilize Commando Solo to conduct television and radio broadcasts in Republika Srpska to inform the Bosnian Serbs of the true facts.

It may also be necessary to take similar action with respect to the other Bosnian parties. I fear that without such action war criminals will not be brought to justice, reconciliation will not take place, and the human and material investment of the United States and its allies will have been in vain.

I am sending a similar letter to the Secretary of Defense.

Sincerely,

CARL LEVIN,
Ranking Minority Member.

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 24, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM S. COHEN,
Secretary of Defense,
The Pentagon, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I am writing in connection with the lack of progress in implementing the civilian aspects of the Dayton peace accords, particularly the problem of war criminals. I am deeply disturbed about the failure of the Bosnian parties, particularly the Republika Srpska, to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law as required by Article IX of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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Sincerely,

CARL LEVIN,
Ranking Minority Member.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 29, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,373,127,138,499.91. (Five trillion, three hundred seventy-three billion, one hundred twenty-seven million, one hundred thirty-eight thousand, four hundred ninety-nine dollars and ninety-one cents)

One year ago, July 29, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,182,455,000,000. (Five trillion, one hundred eighty-two billion, four hundred fifty-five million)

Five years ago, July 29, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,995,312,000,000. (Three trillion, nine hundred ninety-five billion, three hundred twelve million)

Ten years ago, July 29, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,298,353,000,000. (Two trillion, two hundred ninety-eight billion, three hundred fifty-three million)

Fifteen years ago, July 29, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,089,771,000,000 (One trillion, eighty-nine billion, seven hundred seventy-one million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,283,356,138,499.91 (Four trillion, two hundred eighty-three billion, three hundred fifty-six million, one hundred thirty-eight thousand, four hundred ninety-nine dollars and ninety-one cents) during the past 15 years.

U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION
FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 25

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending July 25, the U.S. imported 8,138,000 barrels of oil each day, 585,000 barrels more than the 7,553,000 imported each day during the same week 1 year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 56.3 percent of their needs last week, and there are no signs that the upward